

Stone and Glass™

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FROM SAND TO GLASS HOW MASTER ARTISAN JAMES STONE BRINGS HIS VISION TO LIFE

July 23, 2008 (*San Diego, CA*)...It all starts with a grain of sand – actually many grains. The art of blowing glass begins when sand or silica is heated to temperatures hotter than 2,300°F to create glass.

Making the sand into glass is not art – transforming the molten glob of brilliantly colored glass into a work of beauty to be admired – that’s art. Master Artisan James Stone uses his masterful eye as an artist along with his expertly-honed technique as a craftsman to create awe-inspiring underwater images.

Stone draws his inspiration from the world around him – and every piece starts with a vision. Next, he takes great pains to sketch the sculpture before bringing it to life. Evidenced in each of his creations is his passion for the planet and all its inhabitants trying to co-exist.

His connection to his work goes even deeper than his link to humanity. The art of glass blowing dates back thousands of years, and through history has been a prominent part of Jewish culture, with the techniques passing from father to son. As a man of Jewish faith, his craft helps him stay connected to his convictions.

“The art of glassmaking honors my roots,” Stone attests. “It is an ancient Jewish tradition and when I am creating I feel as close as I can be to my faith without being a rabbi.”

On a trip to Israel in 1969, Stone unearthed shards of glass while on garbage detail in Kibbutz. He held on to this glass as a memento of the heritage he draws from when he is making glass.

Stone incorporates other mediums, including metals, into his glassworks, making them a unique mix of techniques and textures. After the glass pieces are made, he creates a metal substructure, preparing the shape to support the glass elements. He seals the metal with a variety of elements to create an underwater effect.

His intent is to transport the on-looker to a vibrant underwater world; letting them lose themselves in the sights, sounds and feel of the ocean amid the creatures who make the sea their

home.

“Water is perhaps nature’s most essential element,” Stone says. “What better way to perpetuate a part of ancient culture than by melding the most basic elements of glass, metal and water into art.”

When Stone is not traveling for his work, or completing installations nationwide, he is working at his studio in the historic Bernardo Winery, just north of San Diego, CA. In addition to his sculptures, he creates functional metal and glass furniture, working fountains and wall sculptures.

James Stone is a master artisan who combines the elements of glass, metal and water to say what is in his heart. It’s his hope that the viewer senses the relaxing nature of the underwater world, while gaining an understanding of the urgency for its care and preservation.

For more information visit www.stoneandglass.com. Stone and Glass Studio and Gallery is located in the historic Bernardo Winery, 13330 Paseo Del Verano Norte Blvd, “S” San Diego, CA 92128 or contact 858-485-7701 .

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